Interstate Communications Services Tariff

(Service previously provided under Verizon Tariff F.C.C. No. 20)

Regulations, rates, and charges applicable to interstate communications services furnished

CenturyTel of Alabama, LLC PO Box 4065, Monroe, LA 71211

CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC PO Box 4065, Monroe, LA 71211

Service is furnished by means of wire, terrestrial microwave radio, optical fibers, satellite circuits, or a combination thereof.

All material in this Tariff is new

(X)

(X) Issued under authority of Special Permission No. 02-125 of the Federal Communications Commission.

(Issued under Transmittal No. 26)

Issued: October 11, 2002 Effective: October 26, 2002

CHECK SHEET

Title Page and Pages 1 to 6-2 inclusive, of this tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below contain all changes from the original tariff that are in effect on the date shown.

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1	1st*				
5-261.1	Original*				
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TARIFF FORMAT

Page Numbering - Page numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Pages are numbered sequentially. However, new pages are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new page is added between pages already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new page added between pages 14 and 15 would be 14.1.

Page Revision Numbers - Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each page. These numbers are used to determine the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, the Original Page 14 cancels the Original Page 14. Because of the various suspension periods and deferrals the Commission follows in its tariff approval process, the most current page number on file with the Commission is not always the tariff page in effect. Consult the check page for the page currently in effect.

Paragraph Numbering Sequence - There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:

2 2.1 2.1.1 2.1.1.A 2.1.1.A.1 2.1.1.A.1.(a) 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i) 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i)

Check Sheets - When a tariff filing is made with the Commission an updated check sheet accompanies the filing. The check sheet lists the pages contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (*). There shall be no other symbols used on this page if these are the only changes made to it. The tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular page is the most current on file with the Commission.

CONCURRING, CONNECTING, AND OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

CONCURRING CARRIERS

No Concurring Carriers

CONNECTING CARRIERS

No Connecting Carriers

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

No Other Participating Carriers

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

Changes to this Tariff shall be identified on the revised page(s) through the use of symbols. The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- (C) To signify a changed regulation
- (D) To signify a discontinued rate or regulation
- (I) To signify an increase in rate or charge
- (M) To signify material relocated from one page to another without change
- (N) To signify a new rate or regulation
- (R) To signify a reduced rate or charge
- (S) To signify a reissued matter
- (T) To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation
- (Z) To signify a correction

REFERENCE TO OTHER TARIFFS

Whenever reference is made in this tariff to other tariffs, the reference is to the tariffs in force as of the effective date of this tariff, and to amendments thereto and successive issues thereof.

REFERENCE TO OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The following technical publications are referenced in this tariff and may be obtained from Telcordia, 8 Corporate Place, PYA3C-184, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

Technical Reference:

GR-253-CORE, Issue 2

Issued: December, 1995 Available: December, 1995

TR-NWT-001112, Issue No. 1

Issued: December, 1994 Available: December, 1994

GR-1110-CORE, Issue 1

Issued: September, 1994 Available: September, 1994

GR-1248-CORE, Issue 2

Issued: September, 1995 Available: September, 1995

SR-3330, Issue 1

Issued: November, 1994 Available: November, 1994

TR-INS-000342

Issued: February, 1991 Available: February, 1991

REFERENCE TO OTHER PUBLICATIONS, (Continued)

Technical Reference: (Continued)

The following publication, referenced in this tariff, may be obtained from ATM Forum, 2570 West El Camino Real, Suite 304, Mountain View, CA 94040 or on the Internet at http://www.atmforum.com.

ATM Forum, ATM User Network Interface Specifications, Version 3.0, af-uni-0010.001 Issued: September, 1993 Available: September, 1993

ATM Forum, ATM User Network Interface Specifications, Version 3.1, Af-uni-0010.002

Issued: September 10, 1994 Available: September 10, 1994

ATM Forum, Interim Inter-switch Signaling Protocol, af-pnni-0026.000

Issued: December, 1994 Available: December, 1994

APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This Tariff contains the regulations, rates and charges applicable to the provision of interstate communications services by CenturyTel Operating Companies between domestic points within the United States, Puerto Rico the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands, subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission").

(Issued under Transmittal No. 26)

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1. - DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following are definitions of generally used terms in this Tariff. Service specific definitions may be found in Section 5 of this Tariff.

CELL DELAY VARIATION TOLERANCE - Cell Delay Variation Tolerance (CDVT) is the amount of variation permitted for early arrival of clusters of cells at the source User Network Interface (UNI). Cells exceeding the tolerance will be declared non-conformant and will be discarded.

COMMISSION - The Federal Communications Commission.

COMPANY - CENTURYTEL OPERATING COMPANIES, unless otherwise clearly indicated by the context.

CONSTANT BIT RATE - Constant Bit Rate (CBR) is a steady flow of user information required to support applications where variable delays in transmission would negatively impact the information content. CBR is the highest priority traffic on the network. Examples of applications requiring CBR are voice and some types of video.

CUSTOMER - Any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity who subscribes to or uses service under the terms and conditions of this Tariff. Customer is responsible for the payment of charges for service offered by the Company which are subscribed to or used by Customer. Customer is also responsible for payment of charges for a third person's use of service to which Customer subscribes.

CUSTOMER SITE or PREMISES - A single physical location where the Company's facilities terminate to the Customer's equipment or facilities.

DEDICATED SONET RING (DSR) ATM PORT - DSR is a private Company provided SONET network dedicated to a specific Customer. A DSR ATM Port is a connection to the network-based ATM switch from a DSR network, and requires that the DSR Extension be terminated in the central office where the ATM switch is located.

ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER - A carrier who may obtain services at wholesale rates pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §251(c)(4).

HUB - A Company designated serving wire center which is equipped to provide service.

1. - DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (Continued)

INTERIM INTER-SWITCH SIGNALING PROTOCOL- Interim Inter-switch Signaling Protocol (IISP), which is similar to the User Network Interface (UNI), allows inter-network connectivity through the use of Switched Virtual Circuits.

MAXIMUM BURST SIZE (MBS) - The term "Maximum Burst Size" denotes the consecutive number of ATM cells that can enter the ATM Cell Relay Service network above the Sustained Cell Rate level and below the Peak Cell Rate level.

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2. - REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of Carrier

- 2.1.1 Service is furnished for interstate communications originating or terminating at specified points within Company's operating territory.
- 2.1.2 Company shall provide service in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Tariff.
- 2.1.3 Company may, when authorized by Customer and agreed to by Company, act as Customer's agent for ordering facilities provided by other carriers to allow connection of Customer's locations to Company's network or to the network of an underlying carrier or service.
- 2.1.4 Company will pass on and bill to Customer any charges it incurs (including applicable recurring and nonrecurring charges and any time and material charges) from other service providers, such as ILECS and CLECS, necessary to complete provision of a service offered in this Tariff to Customer's designated premises.
- 2.1.5 Service is provided on a monthly basis unless ordered on a longer term basis, and is available 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

2.2 Limitations on Service

- 2.2.1 Service is offered subject to the availability of the necessary facilities and equipment and subject to the provisions of this Tariff.
- 2.2.2 Company reserves the right to discontinue furnishing service, or to limit the use of service, when necessitated by conditions beyond its control, when Customer is using service in violation of the law or in violation of the provisions of this Tariff, or for nonpayment by Customer.

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2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.2 Limitations on Service (Continued)

- 2.2.3 Customer may not transfer or assign the use of any service provided under this Tariff without the prior written consent of Company. All regulations and conditions contained in this Tariff, as well as any additional conditions for service, shall apply to any and all such permitted assignees or transferees. Except and to the extent that applicable laws or regulation require such notice, Company may assign its rights and obligations hereunder in whole or in part without notice to Customer.
- 2.2.4 Service may not be used for any unlawful purpose.
- 2.2.5 Company may require Customer to sign an application form furnished by Company and to establish credit as provided in this Tariff, as a condition precedent to the initial establishment of service. Company's acceptance of an order for service to be provided to an applicant whose credit has not been duly established may be subject to the deposit provisions described in Section 2.9 of this Tariff. Company may also require a signed authorization from Customer for additions to or changes in existing service for Customer.

2.3 Limitations on Liabilities

- 2.3.1 The liability of Company for damages is limited to liability arising solely and directly from mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission occurring in the course of furnishing service that are not caused in whole or in part by acts or omissions of any other person, and shall in no event exceed an amount equal to the charges Company would assess Customer during the period during which mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission occurred.
- 2.3.2 Company shall not be liable for unlawful use, or use by any unauthorized person, of its service, or for any claim arising out of a breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted by Company.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

- 2.3 Limitations on Liabilities (Continued)
 - 2.3.3 Company shall not be liable for any failure of performance due to causes beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, fires, meteorological phenomena, floods, or other catastrophes, national emergencies, insurrections, riots or wars, strikes, lockouts, work stoppages or other labor difficulties, and any law, order, regulation, or other action of any governing authority or agency thereof. With respect to the services, Company hereby expressly disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, not stated in this Tariff, and in particular disclaims all warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.
 - 2.3.4 Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of other carriers or persons, including carriers or persons whose facilities may be utilized in establishing connections to Company's facilities. Customer shall indemnify and save harmless Company from any third party claims asserting such liability.
 - 2.3.5 Company shall not be liable for any damages Customer may incur as a result of the unauthorized use the services provided under this Tariff. Customer is responsible for controlling access to, and the use of, the services provided by Company.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.4 Cancellation or Discontinuance of Service by Company

Without incurring any liability, Company may under the following conditions cancel service prior to commencement. Company may also discontinue service that is being furnished, provided that, unless otherwise stated, Customer shall be given fifteen (15) days written notice of such cancellation or discontinuance of service.

- 2.4.1 For noncompliance with or violation of any applicable municipal, state, or federal law, ordinance or regulation or noncompliance with or violation of any Commission regulation, provided that no notice may be given.
- 2.4.2 For Customer's refusal to provide reasonable access to Company or its agents for the purpose of installation, inspection or maintenance of equipment owned by Company.
- 2.4.3 For noncompliance with any of the provisions of this Tariff.
- 2.4.4 For nonpayment of any sum due Company for more than thirty (30) days after delivery of an invoice to the custody of the U.S. Mail or other delivery service.
- 2.4.5 Without notice, in the event of Customer's use of equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect Company's equipment or its provision of service to others.
- 2.4.6 Without notice, in the event of unauthorized or fraudulent use of service. Whenever service is discontinued for unauthorized use of service, Company may, before restoring service, require Customer to make, at its own expense, all changes to its facilities or equipment necessary to eliminate unauthorized use and to pay to Company an amount reasonably estimated by Company as the loss in revenues to Company resulting from such unauthorized use plus claims lodged against Company by third parties.
- 2.4.7 Without notice, by reason of any order or decision of a court or other government authority having jurisdiction that prohibits Company from furnishing service to Customer.

- 2. REGULATIONS (Continued)
- 2.5 Cancellation or Termination of Service by Customer
 - 2.5.1 Customer may cancel service by giving notice to Company up to the day service is scheduled to commence subject to payment of any applicable early termination charges.
 - 2.5.2 If Customer orders service which requires special construction or facilities for Customer's use, and then cancels its order before service begins, a charge shall be made to Customer for the non-recoverable portions of the expenditures or liabilities incurred on behalf of Customer by Company. This charge may be in addition to any other applicable early termination charges.
 - 2.5.3 Company shall have up to thirty (30) days to complete a disconnect. Customer shall be responsible for all charges for 30 days, or until the disconnect is effected, whichever is sooner. This 30-day period shall begin on the day of receipt of a disconnection notice from Customer.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.6 Contract Service Arrangements

Customer-specific contract service arrangements may be furnished in lieu of existing tariff offerings.

- 2.6.1 Rates, charges, term, and additional regulations, if applicable, for the contract service arrangement shall be developed on an individual case basis.
- 2.6.2 Unless otherwise specified, the regulations for contract service arrangements are in addition to the applicable regulations and rates specified in this Tariff.

2.7 Restoration of Service

The use and restoration of service shall in all cases be in accordance with the priority system specified in Part 64, Subpart D, of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.8 Payment and Billing

- 2.8.1 For billing of fixed charges, service is considered to be established upon the day on which Company notifies Customer of installation or testing of Customer's service. Fixed charges shall be billed monthly in advance and are due upon receipt. Customer shall be billed for all usage in arrears. Rate changes shall be effective on the effective date of the rate change.
- 2.8.2 Bills are due and payable upon receipt. Interest at the lesser of a rate of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month, or the maximum rate allowed by law, may be charged on any amount remaining unpaid after thirty (30) days from delivery of an invoice to the custody of the U.S. Mail or other delivery service.
- 2.8.3 The security of Customer's authorization or access code is the responsibility of Customer. Customer shall be responsible for payment of all charges applicable to the service, including in cases where the service was accessed in a manner not authorized by Customer.
- 2.8.4 Company reserves the right to examine the credit record of an applicant or Customer. A Customer whose service has been discontinued for nonpayment of bills shall be required to pay any unpaid balance due to Company before service is restored, and a deposit may be required.
- 2.8.5 Company shall make no refund of overpayments by Customer unless the claim for such overpayment, together with proper evidence, is submitted within two (2) years from the date of the alleged overpayment. In calculating refunds, any applicable discounts shall be adjusted based upon the actual monthly usage after all credits or adjustments have been applied.
- 2.8.6 A charge shall apply whenever any check or draft for payment for service is not accepted by the institution on which it is written.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.9 Deposits

- 2.9.1 Each applicant for service may be required to establish credit. Any applicant whose credit has not been duly established may be required to make a deposit to be held as a guarantee of payment of charges at the time of application. In addition, an existing Customer may be required to make a deposit or increase a deposit presently held. Company shall pay interest on deposits if and to the extent required by applicable law.
- 2.9.2 A deposit shall not exceed the estimated charges for three (3) month's service plus installation, and shall be returned:
 - When an application for service has been canceled prior to the establishment of service. Such deposit shall be applied to any applicable charges, and the excess portion of the deposit shall be returned.
 - At the end of twelve (12) consecutive months of a satisfactory credit history.
 - Upon the discontinuance of service. Company shall apply Customer deposit against any outstanding balances due. If a credit balance exists, a refund shall be made to Customer.

The fact that a deposit has been made in no way relieves Customer from complying with the regulations with respect to the prompt payment of bills on presentation.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.10 Taxes

- 2.10.1 Service may be subject to Federal, state and/or local taxes at the prevailing rates. Such taxes are listed as separate line items on Customer's invoice, are not included in the rates and charges listed herein, and shall be paid by Customer in addition to the rates and charges stated in this Tariff.
- 2.10.2 To the extent that a municipality, other political subdivision or local agency of government, or the Commission, imposes upon and collects from Company a gross receipts tax, occupation tax, license tax, permit fee, franchise fee, regulatory or other fee, such taxes and fees shall, insofar as practicable, be billed pro rata to Customers receiving service within the territorial limits of such municipality, other political subdivision, or local or Federal government or agency.
- 2.10.3 Company may adjust its rates and charges or impose additional rates and charges on its Customers in order to recover amounts it is required by governmental or quasi-governmental authorities to collect from or pay to others in support of statutory or regulatory programs. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to, the Universal Service Fund (USF). Imposition, billing and collection of such rates and charges are subject to billing and other system changes by Company.
 - A. For Recovery of Contributions Paid by Company to USF

Telecommunications services provided by Company are subject to an non-discountable monthly USF Fee, payable by Customer. The fee shall be calculated as follows: The gross amounts (exclusive of taxes) attributable to interstate and international services billed to Customer by Company multiplied by 7.2805%. The USF will not be assessed to the extent Company is not assessed a fee on the billed charges.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.11 Terminal Equipment

Service may be used with or terminated in Customer-provided terminal equipment. Such terminal equipment shall be furnished by and maintained at the expense of Customer, except as otherwise provided. Customer is also responsible for all costs it incurs in the use of service, including but not limited to equipment, wiring, electrical power, and personnel. When such terminal equipment is used, it shall in all respects comply with the generally accepted minimum protective standards of the telecommunications industry as endorsed by the Federal Communications Commission.

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2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.12 Interconnection

Service furnished by Company may be connected with the services or facilities of other carriers. Customer is responsible for all charges billed by other carriers in connection with the use of service. Any special equipment or facilities necessary to achieve compatibility between carriers are the sole responsibility of Customer.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

- 2.13 Inspection, Testing and Adjustment
 - 2.13.1 Company may, with or without notice, make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine whether tariff requirements are being complied with in the installation, operation, and maintenance of Customer's or Company's equipment or services. Company may, without notice, interrupt service at any time, as necessary, because of a departure from any of these requirements and may continue such interruption until its requirements have been satisfied.
 - 2.13.2 Upon reasonable notice, the facilities provided by Company shall be made available to Company by Customer for such tests and adjustments as may be necessary for their maintenance to a condition satisfactory to Company.
 - 2.13.3 Company shall not be liable to Customer for any damages for service interruption pursuant to this Section.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.14 Interruption of Service

- 2.14.1 It shall be the obligation of Customer to notify Company of any interruption of service. Before giving such notice, Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission of Customer or is not in wiring or equipment connected to the terminal of Company. Company's liability for service interruption is limited according to the provisions of Section 2.3.
- 2.14.2 When service is interrupted for four hours or more, Company will, upon request by Customer, issue a credit, computed as set forth below, provided such interruption is not determined by Company to have been caused by the negligence or willful action of Customer, or any other person at Customer's terminal location, or by the failure of Customer's equipment or power supply.
- 2.14.3 Credit is computed by multiplying the monthly rate for service by the ratio that the number of hours in the period of interruption bears to 720 hours. For the purpose of this computation, each month shall be considered to have 720 hours. The credit shall be based upon the non-usage charges for the month during which the interruption occurred, excluding equipment and access line charges.
- 2.14.4 An interruption is measured from the time Company detects trouble or Customer notifies Company of the interruption by an expeditious means, until the trouble is cleared. Each interruption is considered separately for the purposes of establishing credit allowance. No credit shall be given for an interruption of service of less than four hours. The credit for a billing period shall not exceed the monthly rate.
- 2.14.5 Credits for outages are not applicable in those situations in which an alternative remedy is specified in the Tariff or disclaimed in the description, rates, or charges section of this Tariff pertaining to the particular service.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.15 Provision of Service

Services are provided only in those geographic areas where facilities exist, where Company has in its discretion determined (subject to applicable law) to provide services, and where Company is authorized to provide services. Provision of services offered under this Tariff are subject to availability.

2. - REGULATIONS (Continued)

2.16 Special Construction

The regulations, rates and charges for special construction are set forth in contracts between Company and Customer and apply in instances where substantial construction costs with no foreseeable reuse of facilities are forecast. The Special Construction rates and charges are in addition to the regulations, rates and charges specified in this Tariff.

3. - GENERAL

3.1 Availability of Service

Company's service is furnished to Customers for data communications originating and terminating within its service area, as specified in Section 4 of this Tariff under the terms and conditions of this Tariff. Company's service is available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week unless otherwise specified herein.

Company arranges for installation, operation, and maintenance of the service provided in this Tariff for Customer in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Tariff. Company may, when authorized by Customer, act as Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities (such as the LEC), to allow connection of a Customer's location to Company's service. Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangements.

3. - GENERAL (Continued)

3.2 Facilities Hub

Customer has the option of ordering analog or digital facilities (i.e., DS1, DS1C or DS3) to a facility Hub for channelizing to individual services requiring lower capacity facilities. Different locations may be designated as Hubs for different facility capacities, e.g., multiplexing from digital to analog may occur at one location while multiplexing from digital to digital may occur at a different location. Locations (wire centers) that provide multiplexing of High Capacity Services have been designated as Intermediate Hubs, Super-Intermediate Hubs or Terminus hubs. When ordering, Customer will specify the desired multiplexing Hub(s) or grooming Hubs, as applicable.

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4. - CONNECTION CHARGES

4.1 Ordering Charges

4.1.1 Initial Ordering Charge

This charge applies on a per Service Request basis, including those requests to add additional termination to an existing service.

4.1.2 Subsequent Ordering Charge

This charge applies on a per Service Request basis for modifications to an existing service. This would include activities such as:

- Additions of supplemental features and multiplexing arrangements.
- Changes in the type of transport rate option.

The applicable charges are specified within each service rate section.

4.2 Requests for Expedition

Customer may request an expedited service date. For those services that can be expedited, Company will provide an estimate of the charges to Customer. Customer must accept the price estimate prior to Company performing the expedite. The actual charges billed to Customer will be no more than 10 percent over the estimate.

4. - CONNECTION CHARGES (Continued)

4.3 Moves

A move normally involves an interruption of service for the period required to complete the move. No credit allowance will be granted for that period. Customer is responsible for any applicable special construction or non-standard charges at the different CDL.

Customer may request that service not be interrupted during a move. To comply with that request, it may be necessary to install a duplicate service, and subsequently discontinue the existing service. Charges, monthly and nonrecurring, will apply for the duplicate service. A new minimum period will be established for the duplicate portion of the service, depending on which end of service is moved. Customer will remain responsible for all minimum period charges associated with the corresponding portion of the disconnected service.

4.3.1 Same CDL

When the move is to a new point within the same CDL (same address and/or same building), the charge for the move will be the Subsequent Ordering Charge plus an amount equal to one half the appropriate installation charge for the service termination affected. There will be no change in the minimum period requirements. For services subject to payment plan regulations, Customer will keep the same payment period in force.

4.3.2 Different CDL

When the move is to a different CDL (different address and different building), except as specified below, it will be treated as a disconnect and an installation of service. The Initial Ordering Charge will apply plus the appropriate service installation charge for the service termination(s) affected. A new minimum period will be established for the installed service. Customer will remain responsible for all minimum period charges associated with the disconnected service.

When the move is to a different CDL but served by the same serving wire center, the following conditions apply:

- A change Service Request will be required.
- Subsequent Ordering Charge will apply plus the appropriate service installation charge for the service termination(s) affected.